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From: Cathy Noh [cathy.noh@saylorcompany.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 29, 2010 9:21 AM
Subject: Statement of the Republic of South Ossetia on the 12th round of Geneva Discussion meetings
Importance: High

Please consider the below statement, which Saylor Company distributes on behalf of the Government of the Republic of South Ossetia.

On July 26-27, 2010, the 12th meeting within the framework of the International Discussions on Security and Humanitarian Issues in Transcaucasia took place in the Geneva Palace of Nations.

In the Geneva Discussions there are equally participating delegations from the Republic of South Ossetia, the Republic of Abkhazia, Georgia, the Russian Federation, and the United States of America. Representatives of the European Union, OSCE, and the UN serve as co-moderators.

Work occurred in two groups. Within the group on security issues, as in previous meetings, there was continuing the discussion on a non-use of force agreement. The U.S. and Georgia delegations opposed the development of such a document, ignoring the internationally acknowledged fact that it was Georgia who was acknowledged as the aggressor in August of 2008, and that military action from Tbilisi in the region remains a threat. Nevertheless, after many hours of intense discussion, it was decided that each side would present its proposals in writing.

The South Ossetia delegation pointed out a number of dangerous provocations committed by the Georgian security forces, including the attack on civilians in Disevi that took place on June 15 and resulted in the wounding a South Ossetian citizen, another incident in Gvirgvina, and the illegal seizure and failure to return the a South Ossetian family's car.

In addition, the South Ossetian delegation raised the issue of Georgia continuing to harbor criminals who committed serious crimes in South Ossetia and sabotaging cooperation on returning detainees and searching for those missing.

The South Ossetian delegation also raised the issue of transfer of technical documentation for the dam of Zonkarskoe reservoir.

Unfortunately, because Ambassador Hansjord Haber of the EU relied only on data from the Georgian side, we have to say his moderation was biased as has been the case in previous meetings.

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END

Best regards,

Steve

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2010 JUL 29 PM 2:37

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2010 JUL 29 PM 2:37